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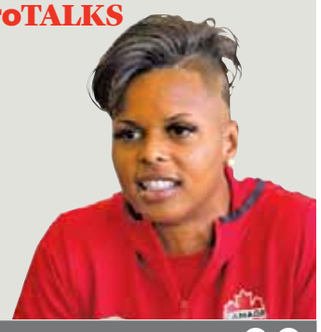
Vancouver metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2015 | High 21°C/Low 12°C Cloudy

FIFA FEVER KICKS OFF WITH KARINA
metroTALKS



JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

PEDALLING FORWARD

Metro looks at how bike friendliness in Vancouver compares to cities around the world. Story in metroNEWS.

Game of Thrones editor killed by lion

IN MEMORIAM

Visual effects expert was based in Vancouver

Vancouver-based Game of Thrones special effects editor Katherine Chappell, 29, was killed by a lion at a South African wildlife reserve on Monday.

The lion attacked Chappell through an open car window, which a park spokesman insisted was "strictly against policy."

Her close family posted a tribute calling Chappell, commonly known as Kate, "brilliant, kind, adventurous and high-spirited."

Katherine Chappell
HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

She worked as a visual effects editor and information co-ordinator on the Season 4 finale of HBO's Game of Thrones. Her IMDB profile also lists previous roles on Captain America: The Winter Soldier and Godzilla.

The eulogy, written by her sister Jennifer on Facebook, read: "We are broken-hearted to share this news with our friends and family. Yesterday morning, while on a volunteer mission to protect wildlife in South Africa, Kate Chappell was involved in a tragic and fatal accident.

"Her energy and passion could not be contained by mere continents or oceans. She was very much loved and shared her love for life with those she met. We cannot thank everyone enough for the kind words and support. It means the world to us during this difficult time."

Originally from Rye, N.Y., Chappell was working for Los Angeles/Vancouver-based Scanline, an award-winning visual effects company.

Scott Simpson, assistant operations manager at the wildlife refuge, Lion Park, said in a statement that the park was investigating the attack, but the lion involved would not be euthanized.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

U.S. city leaders want sharing economy to grow. **Business**

UBC proposes micro apartments for students

HOUSING

Units would be roughly the size of a parking space

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

A rendering of the proposed Gage South Student Residence at the University of British Columbia, which could provide up to 630 beds for upper-year students if approved next week. CONTRIBUTED

A proposal for tiny student apartments at the University of British Columbia is grabbing a huge amount of attention in this housing-obsessed city.

UBC's managing director of student housing Andrew Parr has been yielding a flurry of media requests about the proposal to build 145-square-foot apartments — at 12 feet by 12 feet, that's about the size of a parking spot — as part of a new student housing complex for upper year students. If approved by the university's board of governors, the units that aim to squeeze in a bathroom and a kitchenette would rent for between $660 and $690 a month when complete in 2019, Parr said Wednesday.

"We completely recognize we're going to the extreme level of small… there definitely won't be a dinner party with a turkey dinner," Parr said.

Only 43 units in the 630-bed complex would be this size. Students will have access to communal study rooms, music rooms and fitness centres.

Parr figures the outsized response to the shoebox lifestyle could be due to the hot topic of affordability in Metro Vancouver, with the recent #donthave1million rally prompting politicians to respond to the issue of young people leaving the city for cheaper pastures.

"It's a unique notion for Vancouver, and a somewhat unique notion for North American society, the idea of living in a really small compact space like this and relying on the community around you for other parts of your living environment," he said. "It does come down to a psychology about how North Americans feel about property… bigger is always better."

> **There definitely won't be a dinner party with a turkey dinner.**
> Andrew Parr

While some students think the proposal is "nuts," Parr said most feedback is positive in discussions he's had with students and administration. Ultimately it boils down to trying to get more, cheaper housing at the Vancouver campus, which doesn't have enough housing supply.

Constructing smaller units costs less, so Parr estimates students will save about $350 to $500 a month compared to other campus units.

"That's quite substantial for students on a budget," he said.

If the board approves the proposal next week, the architect will develop detailed drawings over the summer. Consultation will take place this fall when students return to campus.

If not enough people can envision living in these units, Parr said plans will be revised before his department asks the board for final approval in spring 2016.

BOMB PLOT

RCMP operation under scrutiny

An elaborate undercover RCMP operation is expected to be heavily scrutinized, as a British Columbia court prepares to hear whether police abused their authority by entrapping a couple found guilty of a legislature bomb plot, says a legal expert.

Simon Fraser University criminology professor David MacAlister said John Nuttall and Amanda Korody face an uphill battle in convincing the court they would not have carried out their thwarted attack at the provincial legislature without help from police. Nuttall and Korody were accused of planting homemade pressure-cooker bombs on the legislature grounds on Canada Day two years ago.

Jurors found them guilty on Tuesday after three days of deliberations, but the judge refrained from registering their convictions until the entrapment arguments are heard in court.

Entrapment is a relatively rare defence that arises when police go beyond providing suspects with an opportunity to commit a crime and actually encourage the offence, said MacAlister, describing it as an abuse of process.

He said that in deciding whether police entrapped Nuttall and Korody, the court will consider a number of different factors including the nature of the crime, the persistence of the officers involved and the type of inducements they used.

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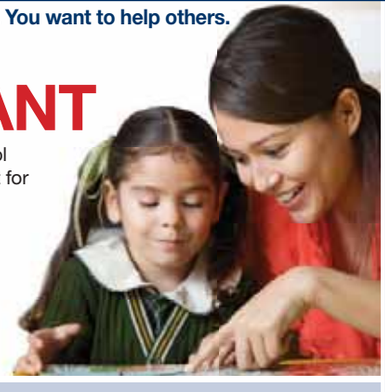

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Vancouver's behind the pack when it comes to city cycling

TRANSPORTATION

City ranks 46th on list of the most bike-friendly

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

All political jostling, commuter conflict and Lycra jokes aside, Vancouver is still far from being one of the most bike-friendly cities in the world.

According to the recently released Copenhagenize Design Company's 2015 index of the most bike-friendly cities in the world, Vancouver ranks 46th.

Using a rating system based on cycling advocacy, infrastructure, facilities, safety, social acceptance, gender split and modal percentage, the urban planning and consulting firm ranked 122 cities around the globe with populations of more than 600,000.

Copenhagenize only publishes their Top 20, but told Metro via email where Vancouver ended up on the index.

The Top 20 is led by Copenhagen, where 45 per cent of people commute by bike thanks to the Danish city's "unrivalled" urban design for bicycles.

The rest of the list is largely dominated by other European cities.

Buenos Aires (14), Minneapolis (18) and Montreal (20) — applauded for embracing protected bike lanes since the 1980s, its bike-share system and a strong gender split — are the only cities outside that continent to feature on this year's list.

Cyclists on Union Street wait for the light to cross Main Street in Vancouver last week. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

While Vancouver has made significant — but hotly debated — gains in cycling infrastructure in recent years, HUB Cycling executive director Erin O'Melinn thinks Vancouver's ranking is a fair one.

"Clearly, there are other cities that have had huge head starts," said O'Melinn. "It's too bad the issue gets polarized (in Vancouver) when it's really about moving people around in a much more efficient way. Our landmass is not getting any bigger, but our population is. Something needs to adapt."

> **"Clearly, there are other cities that have had huge head starts.**
> HUB Cycling executive director Erin O'Melinn

HUB Cycling is advocating, first and foremost, for increased cycling education.

O'Melinn believes cycling safety should be taught to children in schools, and that adults should have access to the same resources at community centres.

"People don't change their habits just because bike lanes are built into the environment," she said, stressing the need for cycling culture to permeate into the mainstream.

In the meantime, there has been progress.

O'Melinn said participation in this year's Bike to Work Week increased by 45 per cent, and a recent Vancouver Coastal Health survey says 25 per cent of Vancouverites now commute via "active transportation" methods (cycling or walking).

But progress has stalled significantly because improving cycling infrastructure, at the expense of drivers, remains politically contentious.

And then there is the city's failed attempt to get its own $6-million bike share program off the ground.

Speaking at a Metro Talks panel last month, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson expressed his dismay that the program, originally slated to open in 2013, has yet to materialize.

"It's been frustrating that it's taken this long," Robertson said. "I've been committed to getting a public bike share system since I became mayor."

However, he said the delay may be beneficial in the sense that new technology has eliminated the need for "big and expensive clunky" docking stations, as originally planned.

"We're looking at a modest investment to get it off the ground," he said. "Hopefully it can generate revenue and grow on its own stream."

The city isn't immediately looking to add to its collection of separated bike lanes, but the possibility of one along Commercial Drive remains on the table as the Grandview-Woodlands community planning process continues.

THE TOP 10

1. Copenhagen
2. Amsterdam
3. Utrecht
4. Strasbourg
5. Eindhoven
6. Malmo
7. Nantes
8. Bordeaux
9. Antwerp
10. Seville

*** Montreal ranked 20th**

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‘It’s a puzzle to us’

KITS BEACH

Man suffers mysterious head injury during walk

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Police are asking the public for help in solving the mystery of how a Vancouver man suffered a serious head injury that has him fighting for his life in hospital.

“It’s a puzzle to us,” VPD spokesman Const. Brian Montague told reporters Wednesday. “We’re really hoping that the public will have some information they can share.”

The 58-year-old man, who police are not identifying, went for a walk to Kitsilano Beach around 8:30 p.m. Saturday to watch the sunset and returned to his home nearby two hours later dazed and confused with what appeared to be a minor head injury, according to police.

Vancouver police are seeking the public’s help in solving the mystery of how this 58-year-old man suffered a serious head injury near Kitsilano Beach on Saturday night. COURTESY VPD

When the man’s partner asked him about the wound, he said he was involved in a confrontation with someone at the beach but couldn’t give any more details.

Montague said the man went to sleep that night but was found unresponsive the next morning. He was rushed to hospital and underwent two surgeries for a life-threatening brain bleed, he said.

The man is still in critical condition and might need more surgeries, said Montague.

Investigators have canvassed the neighbourhood, searching for video evidence and witnesses, but have few clues about how the man became injured.

“We don’t even know if he even made it to Kits Beach,” said Montague. “He’s provided us with minor details through his partner.”

The man with the injury is described as white with a dark complexion, five feet 10 inches tall with a heavy build. He has short salt-and-pepper hair and was wearing a New York Yankees baseball hat, an orange T-shirt, cargo shorts and flip-flops and was carrying a black backpack.

Police don’t believe the man was a victim of robbery, as he still had his backpack when he returned home.

Anyone with information is asked to call Vancouver police at 604-717-2541.

FRASER RIVER

Terminal causes concern

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Opponents to a major coal-export terminal on the Fraser River are shifting their focus to a project downstream that could see 120 liquefied-natural-gas tankers visit the river each year.

Voters Taking Action on Climate Change (VTACC) is raising the alarm over WesPac Midstream’s proposal for an LNG terminal on Tilbury Island in Delta, a project that already received approval from the National Energy Board.

The group expressed concerns Wednesday that the project wants to go through B.C.’s environmental assessment process instead of the federal process. The public has until June 11 to comment on which process is acceptable, if one is needed at all.

“Given the B.C. government’s clear bias in favour of LNG exports, handing this over to the province would be like putting the foxes in charge of the hen house,” VTACC director Kevin Washbrook said in an email.

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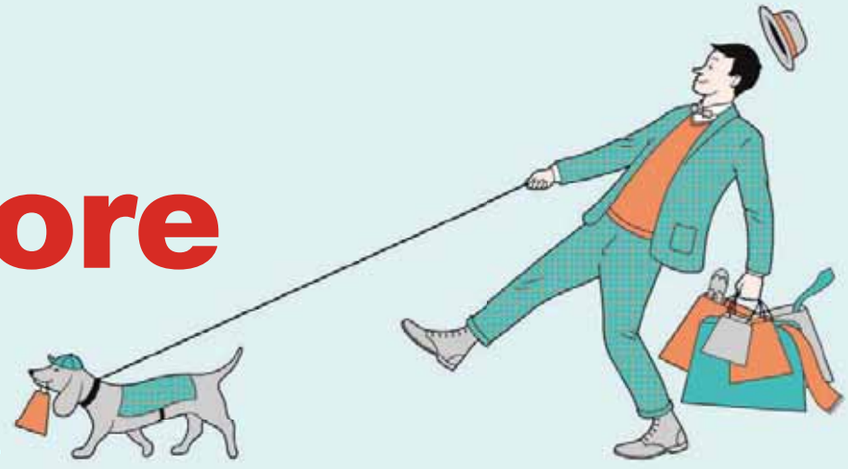

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LONDON

Mystery couple in photo identified

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

A Vancouver man has found the couple he managed to capture in this wedding photo in front in London. COURTESY SABER MIRESMAILLI

A North Vancouver man has found the mystery newlywed couple he captured in a photograph that has tugged on heartstrings around the world.

Less than 72 hours after he posted the photo on Facebook with the hopes of finding the happy couple, Saber Miresmailli said he received an email from groom James Egan and bride Laura Demack-Egan.

"I'm so happy," Miresmailli told Metro. "I had no intention for this to get that crazy. It's been pretty overwhelming but I'm happy they like it."

Miresmailli, an amateur photographer, who was on vacation in London, U.K. was in the back of a car when he spotted the couple kissing in front of Tower Bridge.

On May 31, he posted it on Facebook with the hopes of finding the couple. It quickly spread online with more than 280,000 shares. The couple, who described the photo as "absolutely beautiful," told U.K.'s ITV News they were on their honeymoon in Bali and had no idea of their newfound fame. Egan said he is grateful Miresmailli captured "such a brilliant moment."

"He was in the back of a car, and to frame us in the middle of Tower Bridge and capture that moment is incredible," he said.

VERNON, B.C.

Police go 'homeless' to catch bad drivers

A B.C. Mountie who posed as a homeless man — sort of — says the tactic was an effective way to catch drivers using cellphones or not wearing their seatbelts.

Cpl. Mark Taylor dressed in plain clothes and stood on a Vernon, B.C., street holding a cardboard sign that read "I am not homeless."

Taylor said some passing drivers still assumed he was begging for change and avoided looking at him.

He said that when he saw drivers using their cellphones or not wearing seatbelts, he radioed officers further down the road, and they ticketed 11 drivers in one hour on Monday.

RCMP spokesman Gord Molendyk said similar enforcement campaigns have involved officers impersonating construction workers or commuters waiting for a bus.

He said the method works because drivers are much less likely to realize they're being observed by police if the officer is not wearing a uniform.

"There's no law saying we can't do this," Molendyk said. "The whole idea is education, and that we're serious about enforcing road safety."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Godspell is at the Arts Club Granville Island Stage from June 18 until Aug. 1. COURTESY DAVID COOPER

Godspell rises again at Granville Island Stage

BACKSTAGE PASS

Musical about Jesus comes with a unique twist

Graeme McRanor
For Metro | Vancouver

On paper, it's a pop musical about Jesus and the apostles. But you don't have to be a Bible-thumping zealot to praise Godspell, the Arts Club production that rises again (conceived and originally directed by John-Michael Tebelak) on the Granville Island Stage June 18.

The reason? Well, it's really a timeless tale about friendship, loyalty and love.

Oh, and Jesus is played by a woman.

(Cue lightning strike.)

Now, before you get your tabernacle in a twist, any practising Christian will tell you it's OK to go "off-book" when you have to.

It's the nature of the, er, beast. And, divine truth be told, sometimes you just don't know what you want until it appears right in front of you drenched in epiphanous light.

"When I set out to cast this piece I did not have a specific gender, age, or race in mind for any of these roles — particularly Jesus," said director Sara-Jeanne Hosie.

"From the moment Jennifer Copping walked into the room, there was an immediate feeling that we would follow her. Jesus as a woman breaks the mold, allowing us to tell a fresh story. If you replace the word 'god' with the world 'love' then the true message of this piece comes through. So, when will love save the people?"

To find out, you'll need to buy tickets, for there's no telling when this almighty musical will come again.

Also starring: Danny Balkwill, Lauren Bowler, Andrew Cohen, Janet Gigliotti, Aubrey Joy Maddock, Matt Palmer, Kale Penny, Scott Perrie, Katrina Reynolds, Craig Salkeld, and Lindsay Warnock.

Godspell is at the Granville Island Stage from June 18 to August 1. Tickets start at $29. More information at ArtsClub.com.

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PARLIAMENT SHOOTING

Canada 'ill-prepared' for terror attacks: OPP

As Michael Zehaf Bibeau ran toward the Centre Block on Oct. 22, the RCMP had more than one chance to stop him.

An officer in a cruiser could have blocked Zehaf Bibeau's path to the Centre Block but for a woman pushing a stroller who tried to jump into the car for safety.

A radio alert that a gunman was on Parliament Hill was so garbled that no one understood it.

And the majority of security forces are stationed inside the Parliament Buildings, not outside.

None of the officers stationed on the grounds stopped the gunman before he got through the doors — the result, the RCMP say, of systemic security issues, not human error.

"There is nobody from our perspective that is to blame for this," said RCMP assistant commissioner Gilles Michaud.

He added no one has been disciplined for their actions on Oct. 22.

Yet the events from last October remain a "grim reminder that Canada is ill-prepared" to stop terrorist attacks, with the RCMP suffering a lack of "planning, training and resources" to protect the Parliament buildings, a long-awaited Ontario Provincial Police report says.

> **There is nobody from our perspective that is to blame for this.**
> Gilles Michaud, RCMP assistant commissioner

The report says the RCMP's ability to protect Parliament Hill has been stretched by resource issues stemming from budget cuts imposed in 2012 by the Conservative government.

"Fortunately," the report says, "the attacker was unorganized."

Had Zehaf Bibeau been better prepared, "the end results could have been much worse with the likelihood of many more casualties" and "devastating results." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper hugs Elder Evelyn Commanda-Dewache, a residential-school survivor, during the closing ceremony of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Wednesday in Ottawa. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reconciliation must be a priority: Sinclair

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Parliament talk focuses on duty to act after report's release

Prime Minister Stephen Harper listened in silence Wednesday as the head of an exhaustive study of residential schools and their dark legacy urged all levels of government to make reconciliation and healing a top priority.

The results of that study demand a political response, said Justice Murray Sinclair, the chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that was established in 2007 to document the tragic history of residential schools in Canada.

Harper and Sinclair were among a large gathering of politicians, commissioners, residential-school survivors and members of the aboriginal community who gathered at Rideau Hall to formally close the commission's work. Neither Harper, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt nor Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq spoke at the event.

"The nearly 7,000 people who shared and recorded their experiences and reflections with us have talked about the connections between their residential-school experiences and many things that remain," Sinclair said.

It's the commission's responsibility to share these stories, he continued.

A summary of the commission's findings, which concluded that Canada's residential-school era constituted "cultural genocide," was released Tuesday. Along with it came 94 extensive recommendations that amounted to a comprehensive overhaul of the Crown's relationship with Aboriginal Peoples.

Since then, the daily question period has been dominated by debate about the extent of the government's duty to act on those recommendations — one of which was to adopt the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

And for a second straight day, the government refused to acknowledge the commission's use of the phrase "cultural genocide," despite prodding from the opposition.

> **Canada is one of the only countries in the world where aboriginal and treaty rights are entrenched in our Constitution.**
> Mark Strahl, junior aboriginal affairs minister

New Democrat Leader Tom Mulcair said an NDP government would put a "filter" on its decisions to ensure they respect First Nations treaty rights and obligations and embark on a "vast consultation" on aboriginal education. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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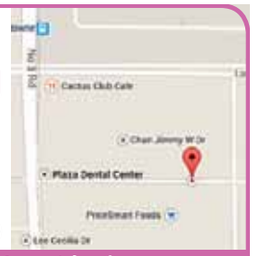

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$10M payment was not a bribe: Sports minister

SOUTH AFRICA

Fikile Mbalula says money was for soccer development

South Africa's sports minister "categorically" denied on Wednesday that the $10 million paid to former FIFA official Jack Warner in 2008 was a bribe for his help in securing the World Cup.

Fikile Mbalula, however, said he couldn't say what Warner did with the money, which South Africa claims was "above board" and meant for soccer development in the Caribbean region.

What happened to the cash is "another story for investigators.... We don't know," Mbalula said. "We can't account for that."

Mbalula repeated the South African government's denials that the country paid bribes to win the right to host the 2010 tournament, as alleged in indictments from the U.S. Department of Justice. South Africa's government — and former president Thabo Mbeki — first denied any wrongdoing in the bid process last week.

The Justice Department believes that $10 million was sent by South Africa, through FIFA, to Warner in three wire transfers in 2008 as payback for him and two other then-FIFA executive committee members for backing South Africa in the 2004 vote. South Africa won the World Cup by four votes over Morocco, making the ballots of Warner and his two "co-conspirators" decisive.

Mbalula characterized the $10 million as an "above-board payment" to help the game in the Caribbean.

Mbalula also insisted that the South African government had not contradicted itself after the emergence of a leaked letter from then-South African Football Association president Molefi Oliphant in 2008 asking FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke to send the $10 million to Warner from South Africa's World Cup funds.

South Africa's sports minister Fikile Mbalula speaks during a news conference in Johannesburg on Wednesday.
THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oliphant twice specified in the letter that the implicated Warner be in control of the money.

"The letter leaked to the media; we don't know why it was leaked in the first place because that correspondence was above board," Mbalula said, denying it suggested a bribe was paid. "Criminals can explain a bribe very well. I don't know how bribes work." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, SPORTS PAGE 22

CAPSIZED SHIP

China searches for 410 missing in river

Chinese authorities deployed scores more divers and a large crane as they escalated efforts Wednesday to recover more than 410 people believed to be trapped inside an overturned river cruise ship.

The capsizing late Monday of the multi-decked Eastern Star in the Yangtze River is on track to become the country's deadliest maritime disaster in seven decades. Chinese authorities have launched a high-profile response while tightly controlling media coverage. Premier Li Keqiang, the country's No. 2 political leader, has travelled to the disaster site in the Hubei province county of Jianli, where he urged "all-out," 24-7 efforts.

Chinese state broadcaster CCTV said the bodies of 26 victims have been pulled from the boat. Fourteen people survived, some of them by swimming ashore and three by being pulled out of the ship by rescuers on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Boston terror suspect not shot in back: Leaders

A leader of Boston's African-American community said Wednesday that a police video of the fatal shooting of a terror suspect makes clear he "was not shot in the back."

Darnell Williams, head of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, said after viewing the video that he could "150 per cent corroborate" the police account of how the officers engaged with Usaama Rahim.

Boston Police Commissioner William Evans said officers confronted him because "military and law-enforcement lives were at threat."

Rahim had talked with another suspect about "committing beheadings" and "harming police officers," a law-enforcement official familiar with the investigation said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WHO YOU ARE:

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- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Solid understanding of the media industry and its trends and prepared to make valuable recommendations based on that knowledge
- Digital subject matter expert
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Individuals interested and having the skills described are requested to submit their resumé and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than June 7, 2015.

PLEASE QUOTE: "DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST — Vancouver" in the Subject Line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

CAPITOL

Man who landed on lawn with gyrocopter says his employer wants to fire him

A man who flew a gyrocopter through some of America's most restricted airspace before landing at the U.S. Capitol says his employer, the United States Postal Service, is taking steps to fire him.

Doug Hughes said Wednesday the agency intends to fire him for "unacceptable conduct" in the wake of his April 15 flight to call attention to campaign finance reform.

The Postal Service released a statement saying it does not comment on pending employee disciplinary matters.

A grand jury indicted Hughes on six charges that carry up to 9 1/2 years in prison.

Hughes, who lives in Ruskin, Fla., said he's received tremendous public support. The tail section of Hughes' gyrocopter carried a Postal Service logo, and Hughes was carrying letters for each member of Congress.

His next court appearance is June 20.

He has been ordered to wear a GPS monitoring device. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AIRSTRIKES

10,000 ISIL fighters killed: U.S. official

A U.S. official said Wednesday that more than 10,000 ISIL fighters have been killed by American-led airstrikes in Iraq and Syria in nine months, offering a body count for a campaign that has yet to blunt their advance.

Deputy Secretary of State Tony Blinken's figure came after a Paris conference on how to stop the extremists ended without any new strategy to halt their campaign. It also comes months after the Pentagon dismissed such counts as "simply not a relevant figure" in the fight against ISIL.

Meanwhile, ISIL launched a major attack on the predominantly Kurdish city of Hassakeh in northeastern Syria, according to activists and Syrian state media.

Speaking Wednesday to France Inter Radio a day after the Paris conference, Blinken said the airstrikes have been effective.

"We have seen enormous losses for Daesh," Blinken said, using an Arabic acronym for the group. "More than 10,000 since the beginning of this campaign. That will end up having an effect."

Blinken did not offer any figure for civilian casualties.

In September, the CIA said that ISIL has up to 31,500 fighters, meaning that could represent a loss of a third of its forces. Despite that, the extremists continue to attract more recruits from around the world who come to fight with the group to expand its self-declared caliphate in Syria and Iraq.

It's not clear why Blinken offered the figure, as the U.S. military in conflicts since the Vietnam War has been either hesitant or discounted such figures as indicators of success. Adm. John Kirby, a Pentagon spokesman, declined to offer them in January when asked by a reporter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The less of these guys that are out there, certainly that's the better, but the goal is to degrade and destroy their capabilities ... It's simply not a relevant figure.
John Kirby

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MUSIC

Apple set to launch streaming service

Apple is reportedly ready to unveil its new streaming music service next week at the company's annual Worldwide Developer Conference.

Reportedly called Apple Music, the new product is based on Beats Music service which the company acquired in August 2014 for $3 billion US.

While it feels like Apple is arriving late to a market with many streaming services, there is still a large opportunity. Market leader Spotify claims 60 million users worldwide, but only 15 million of those are actually paid subscriptions.

By comparison, there are more than 800 million iTunes accounts, which gives Apple a huge amount of leverage. The company is hoping to convert its customers who download music into music streamers.

But that's a tall order. Apple Music reportedly will cost $10 a month (like Spotify Premium or Deezer Premium), meaning a year of streaming would cost $120. According to the Wall Street Journal, of the 110 million iTunes users in the U.S., most currently spend only about $30 on the service.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Families net worth up 73%
Statistics Canada says the average net worth of Canadian families rose 73 per cent between 1999 and 2012 to an average of $554,100 from $319,800. The top 20 per cent saw their net worth rise 80 per cent, climbing from $721,900 to $1,300,100.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. city leaders keen on sharing economy

PEER-TO-PEER SERVICES

But two-thirds are worried about safety, survey finds

American cities are enticed by the economic growth and services that "sharing economy" companies such as Airbnb, Uber and Lyft can offer, but officials are anxious about safety in a largely unregulated realm, a city advocacy group found in a study released Wednesday.

Nearly three-quarters of city leaders said they want to see the "sharing" sector grow, according to National League of Cities survey responses from 245 leaders of municipalities large and small.

Yet nearly two-thirds said they were concerned about the safety of using apps and websites that let everyday people rent out rooms, arrange car rides and provide other services to strangers. More than half the cities said they imposed no rules on "sharing" players, though their traditional counterparts — like hotels and taxi companies — often are regulated.

While 71 per cent of cities said they supported sharing-economy growth, leaders embrace ride-hailing apps more readily than short-term home rentals, by 66 per cent to 44 per cent. In general, cities see the biggest benefits as improved services (rated No. 1 by 22 per cent) and economic expansion (20 per cent). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

While the traditional taxi industry opposes ride-share companies, most of the 245 U.S. city leaders polled said they want to see the "sharing economy" grow. SCOTT OLSON/GETTY IMAGES

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE TALKS

Oil, gas firms demonize coal

Chemistry books say there are three fossil fuels: coal, oil and natural gas. Lately you could get the impression that coal is the only one.

As a global agreement to rein in climate-warming carbon emissions draws closer, oil and gas companies are increasingly talking about coal as the problem and describing themselves as a crucial part of the solution, together with renewable energy sources.

The coal industry has resisted counter-strikes against its fellow fossil fuels, opting instead to highlight new technologies that improve the efficiency of coal-fired power plants or capture their CO_2 emissions.

The split in the fossil fuel family represents a shift from the last time the world negotiated a climate agreement, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. Back then, big oil and coal companies had more of a united front.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, June 4, 2015

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

“Did I mention an inspiring ceremony and more than a few solemn commitments followed the (1996) Erasmus-Dussault report? To look at this week’s headlines and the fresh start they allude to is to take a trip back in time.

Underwhelmed by Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s noncommittal response to the remedial prescriptions of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission? Consider this: When Jean Chrétien was handed a similarly devastating royal commission report, it took him a year to respond with a formal apology for the mistreatment of Canada’s aboriginal peoples.

It was another seven years before the ruling Liberals put together a comprehensive action plan.

Set up in the dying days of Brian Mulroney’s tenure, the royal commission headed by George Erasmus and René Dussault spent five years on the report it handed the Chrétien government in 1996.

At 4,000 pages, it set a royal commission record as the most voluminous of its kind.

There were suggestions this week that the Truth and Reconciliation Commission — with 94 recommendations — has taken on more than anyone could chew. But Erasmus and Dussault had 400 recommendations.

As a measure of progress, the lesser number of prescriptions of this week’s commission report is a red herring. The two commissions came at the issue from different angles and there were 20 years between them, but their core findings are depressingly similar.

Did I mention that an inspiring ceremony and more than a few solemn commitments marked the politically well-attended publication of the Erasmus-Dussault report? To look at this week’s headlines and the fresh start they allude to is to take a trip back in time.

The fiscal climate was not auspicious for the 20-year plan the Dussault-Erasmus commission put forward in 1996. The federal budget was still awash in red ink. The report came a year after the Quebec referendum, at a time when the Chrétien government had its hands full with the unity file.

It was almost another decade before the federal government under Paul Martin teamed up with the provinces and the aboriginal leadership to come up with a comprehensive response.

By that time, Canada has raked in budget surpluses for a number of years. Among other things, the ruling Liberals delivered tax cuts for all, a new child benefit for families, a major reinvestment in health care and seed money for a national child-care initiative before they turned their attention to the aboriginal file and the 2005 negotiation of the Kelowna Accord.

At that point, they were on their last legs in power. Martin’s minority government took the Kelowna Accord to its opposition grave a few months later.

All comparisons have limitations, but the repeat false starts on the aboriginal front — which also include at least two failed constitutional attempts — stand in sharp contrast with the energy marshalled on other Canadian game-changing policies.

Take Canada’s transition to linguistic duality.

Alarmed by the rise of Quebec nationalism, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson set up the royal commission on bilingualism and biculturalism in 1963.

In an interim report published two years later, it drew a less than flattering portrait of the country’s linguistic landscape and the second-class status of the French language and those who spoke it in Quebec and elsewhere in Canada.

By the time of its official report in 1969, Parliament was already moving forward with the Official Languages Act. Ontario had set out to expand its French-language school system. The first French immersion schools were about to open.

Or take, on another front, the social policy revolution that was the introduction of a national medicare system in the 1960s. It took about a decade for Canada to implement it in every province.

As comprehensive as the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission may be, is anyone really arguing that their implementation would require more heavy lifting than that involved in putting French on a more equal footing with English within Canada’s institutions and education systems?

Their price tag pales in comparison with the start-up cost of a coast-to-coast-to-coast universal health-care system.

This is a federation that has largely managed to talk its way out of serious unity challenges and come up with an intercultural model that, while not perfect, works better than most.

But at the same time, inertia has increasingly become the default response of governments to both emerging and enduring challenges.

And that begs one question: When did Canada lose the political will to change its ways?

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: Turning off the tap

Californians cut their water use **13.5 per cent** in April compared to the same month in 2013 — impressive, but short of the target of up to **36 per cent** in some communities. By law, businesses, farms and families are all watching their water waste. Mandatory restrictions are in place to help the state get through the worst drought in its history.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

The Briefcase is a twisted new low for reality television

“What would you do if $101,000 landed on your doorstep?”

That, in a honey-toned voice-over, is the premise of a new reality TV series that makes me want to puke.

The Briefcase exploits families in financial hardship by offering them money, and then forcing them to choose whether to be generous and give the cash to others who are also struggling.

“They’ll learn it’s not the money, but the journey that will teach them what they value most,” the voice-over intones.

What a twisted new low for reality TV.

Disclaimer: I don’t like watching obese British teens hunt in a Borneo jungle (Can Fat Teens Hunt?) or Swedes navigate life without democracy (Dictator).

But I get that many people do. Reality TV shows were three of the top five programs watched in Canada in late May, according to Numeris. That’s despite a ratings dip in the U.S., where slick dramas are pulling in top advertising dollars.

“Reality TV isn’t going anywhere,” Stuart Coxe, a reality TV producer and owner of Antica Productions, told me, “mostly because people watch it.”

That’s true for The Briefcase, which drew 6.87 million viewers to its premiere last week, according to AdWeek.

“Like it or not, there’s some entertainment value,” said AdWeek editor Lisa Granatstein.

I definitely do not like it.

But this isn’t a hate-on for all reality TV. I don’t, as Coxe describes the non-viewers, “assume it’s an incredibly vulgar, demeaning thing that’s corroding our culture.”

“(It) actually deals with a lot more facets of the modern condition more quickly than scripted (TV) can,” he argues.

The most popular shows also “play up the dignity of ordinary people and have more of a redemptive narrative,” he said.

The Briefcase is certainly angling for redemption, mixing sentimental guitar riffs under people crying at the thought of financial stability. But it won’t work.

Reality shows create a moral universe, Coxe noted, and the Briefcase’s universe is way off.

In it, poverty’s ills aren’t alleviated by health care, jobs or housing — but by a generous heart. In it, the only truly good people are the monk-like selfless poor.

That is crazy, especially since CBS, which makes the show, took in $13.81 billion in revenue last year.

For the low price of $101,000 per family, CBS hopes to be even richer.

Don’t help it. Watch MasterChef instead.

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Your essential daily news

Cameron Crowe apologizes for casting Emma Stone as part-Asian character in Aloha

The casual revolution

It's fashionable to be comfortable ... call it 'comfortcore'

EVA LAM/METRO

Who says you have to suffer for fashion? "Comfort" is the buzzword in style these days — comfortcore, if you will — as more and more women choose to kick up (and off) their heels in oversized knits, drawstring bottoms and the ever-practical sneaker.

"Casual and 'athleisure' have taken on a life of their own," declared the NPD Group in a report showing a one per cent increase in total U.S. apparel, footwear and accessories sales from 2013 to 2014 — an additional $2 billion the market researchers attributed largely to growth in sales of activewear, athletic performance footwear, and bags.

The spillover of the dressed-down look from the gym to the streets reflects a change in the way we look at fitness and health, says Alexandra Grant, fashion and lifestyle blogger at To Vogue or Bust. "Fitness and health have had this almost renaissance in terms of being stylish," she says, and back in vogue is the athletic body type exalted in the '80s and early '90s before the waif fad took hold. "I think as health in general and a healthy body type has had a resurgence, people are also celebrating that sort of casual dress that goes with it."

So how does one do comfortcore? Here's a roundup of essentials:

1 Cargo and go

The military-style jacket offers coverage against the elements and a relaxed feel — but don't go overboard with the rugged theme. As Grant says, "The best way to do (the athleisure trend) is to really not alter the rest of your look at all; just infuse one piece at a time." Matching a boxy jacket with a sleek top and heels will ensure you look ready to hit the boardwalk, not the barracks.

>> Intrepid jacket by Gentle Fawn, $145

2 Room to breathe

The skinny pant may be ubiquitous, but when it comes to comfort, it's hard to beat the drawstring pant — loose-fitting, lightweight and, best of all, adjustable. Go from lounging on the couch to stepping out for brunch in a cinch, pun intended.

>> Mojave pant by Gentle Fawn, $105

3 That '80s look

Like the jumpsuit and prodigious shoulder pads before it, the slouchy sweater has risen from the neon-coloured ashes of the MTV decade. "I love the look of oversized, sort of '80s-inspired sweaters, just the really classic grey fleece ones," says Grant. She suggests pairing it with leather leggings in the winter, and in the summer, a feminine skirt or shorts — anything with "that kind of delicate touch to it, to give it a nice balance."

>> Aloma crew sweatshirt by Roots, $74

4 Summer of the sneaker

It's more fun hitting the hot pavement in a sturdy pair of kicks — and it's an easy look for comfortcore beginners, too. "If you would typically wear ballet slippers with skinny jeans and a leather jacket, you can just swap in your New Balance sneakers," says Grant. Pairing high-tops with a flouncy sundress also offers a contrast that gives the outfit a visual pop.

>> Chuck Taylor All Star '70 by Comme des Garçons Play x Converse, $155 (available in mid-June)

5 Neat little package

Accessories are keeping it casual, too. "Incorporating a backpack into your look is really on-trend right now," says Grant. "It encourages you to move a bit more — get on your bike and look stylish while doing it."

>> City backpack by Herschel Supply, $49.99

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New fiction with a scientific twist

DEBUT WORKS

Authors tap into academic backgrounds

BOOKWORM

Sue Carter

While many characters in Irina Kovalyova's whip-smart debut story collection Specimen struggle with identity, the Vancouver author couldn't escape her own training as a scientist.

"I write about what defines us or what we think defines us. But it's very much science-informed," Kovalyova says.

Growing up in Belarus, Kovalyova started writing stories when she was only six. She was later drawn to early 20th-century Russian and British avant-garde fiction and sci-fi.

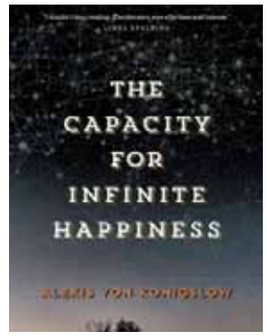
After studying chemistry in Moscow, Kovalyova moved to North America, receiving a doctoral degree in microbiology from Queen's University, followed by an MFA in creative writing from UBC.

But it's her interactions with students at Simon Fraser University — where she's currently a professor — that most inspired Specimen, published by House of Anansi Press.

Like Kovalyova, Toronto author Alexis von Konigslow's training in math and physics at Queen's University partly inspired her debut novel, The Capacity for Infinite Happiness, published by Buckrider Books. The story follows Emily Kogan, a mathematician researching the social network of her Russian-immigrant family.

Von Konigslow says, "There's a ... beauty to math that's hard to explain. It's very similar to writing: it has its own vocabulary and way of asking and answering questions."

Sue Carter is editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



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Chris Brown is a bad passenger

SMH

Singer berates 'old ass' flight attendant, tries to hotbox plane

IN HOLLYWOOD

Ned Ehrbar

Chris Brown. ALL PHOTOS GETTY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chris Brown really needs to work on his people skills.

In the latest round of faux pas by the embattled singer, Brown reportedly made life hell for the crew of a private jet.

The singer apparently was "smoking a ton of pot" despite FAA regulations and requests he stop, according to Us Weekly.

"He blew smoke at a flight attendant and said, 'I paid $60,000 for this jet, so I own it and everyone inside,'" a source says.

He also took aim at another flight attendant: "He told her, 'What is your old ass doing here anyway? I like to have the help be people I'd actually like to f—," the source adds.

Charming, that one.

Also, Chris? Hotboxing a jet and being a jerk to the crew is basically where Justin Bieber was behaviour-wise more than a year ago, so step up your game. And another thing, someone needs to tell him that a private jet — not to mention the people inside — costs much more than 60 grand, so really he was more renting everyone inside of it.

ONCE A CHEATER...

Stripper advises Jennifer Garner to 'run' from Affleck

How do you know your marriage is in trouble? When a stripper purported to be involved in your husband's last big breakup is chiming in — on the record, using her real name — about how you should kick him to the curb.

"I can't say I'm surprised," Tammy Morris tells the National Enquirer when told about rumours that Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner are headed for a split.

"I believe 'once a cheater always a cheater.' My advice to Jen is: Run!"

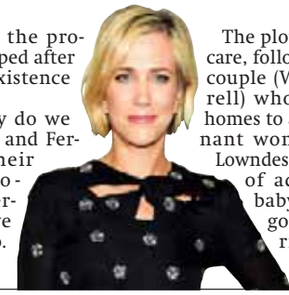
Morris gained some notoriety 12 years ago when she went on the record claiming Affleck had cheated on then-fiancée Jennifer Lopez with her.

For her part, Morris is really just disappointed in Affleck, which is kind of the icing on the cake here.

"I was really hoping Ben had turned his life around," she says. "He married the all-American girl. It's too bad he couldn't make it work." Oof.

A DEADLY ADOPTION

Wiig's Lifetime movie back on



Don't worry, fans of ridiculous camp, that top-secret Lifetime movie starring Will Ferrell and Kristen Wiig that wasn't going to happen is apparently actually going to happen again. And soon.

A billboard for A Deadly Adoption featuring the two stars popped up in L.A. this week with an airdate of June 20, despite claims by Ferrell in April that the project was scrapped after news of its existence leaked.

So not only do we still get Wiig and Ferrell doing their best melodramatic overacting, but we get it soon, too. Score.

The plot, in case you care, follows a married couple (Wiig and Ferrell) who open their homes to a young pregnant woman (Jessica Lowndes) in the hopes of adopting her baby, but things go terribly, terribly wrong, naturally.

I AM CAIT

E! releases promo for Caitlyn Jenner documentary series

Caitlyn Jenner SCREENSHOT

The E! Entertainment network says its documentary series on Caitlyn Jenner premiering next month will be titled I Am Cait, and is showing a promo video for the series depicting her applying makeup.

The Olympic champion is featured in an eight-episode series depicting her transition from a man to a woman that will debut July 26.

E! ramped up promotion Wednesday by releasing a video of Jenner applying lipstick while sitting at a makeup table. She says for the first time a professional had come in and applied makeup for her. "What a difference," she says.

While driving near her California home in the video, Jenner declares: "I'm the new normal."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Tech behind units of the future

CONDOS

Office towers could be repurposed for community

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister

The new film Tomorrowland premiered in theatres last week, and audiences got a taste of the whimsical, futuristic city of needle-shaped skyscrapers and flying cars.

What is now science fiction is poised to become reality sooner than you might expect, as new technological innovations become standard fare for Canadian homes.

Architects and manufacturers are collaborating with the real-estate and construction industries to devise advanced new products and building materials. Condominiums of the future will be geared towards convenience, safety and the security of their occupants.

Canadian architectural firm Onespace Unlimited specializes in hotel and condominium projects across the country. In one future-looking concept, the company reimagined a financial district 100 years from now. OneVision is a Tomorrowland-like community where skyscraper office towers are converted into vertical cities, replete with interconnecting skyways, helicopter landing pads and aerial parks.

In the acclaimed 1970s book Future Shock, futurist Alvin Toffler envisioned residents living in vacant office towers. Fast-forward 40 years and Onespace president Rod Rowbotham says it's happening now. He imagines a highly connected world where there's no need to travel or "gather" at a place of work.

"At a moment's notice, you can be sitting in your living room with multiple translucent displays and you can be talking to people in all parts of the country."

> **"The condo market is a little slow moving when it comes to adapting to technology**
> Onespace Unlimited president Rod Bowbotham

As a result, he adds, there will be a lot of surplus office towers, repurposed for community use. Imagine a police station on the 51st floor of a building, for example. "We don't look at architecture as a result of something. Whatever shapes it is happening because of us as people."

Rowbotham says that although the condo industry is slow to adapt, these amazing advances are just around the corner.

"All of that interesting technology is out there, but it's not in practice yet. The condo market is a little slow moving when it comes to adapting to technology."

With the evolution of the Internet of things, übersmart, network-connected appliances will be standard features in every condo. Software systems are now available that monitor all the devices in your home.

Nest Labs is a pioneer in the area of home automation. Spokesperson Zoz Cuccias says the company has made its innovative learning technology open to independent developers.

ABOVE: A concept by Onespace Unlimited that reimagines the transformation of financial districts into vertical cities with dense living spaces connected by transportation networks.

RIGHT: Talk to your fridge? There's an app for that. LG HomeChat literally lets you chat with your appliances from your mobile device.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

COMING SOON

Technologies to feature in new developments

Self-healing paint
Imagine your condo painted so you'd never have to touch up scratches again. New paint technologies that employ self-healing polymers are already available on the market.

Solar panel windows
Researchers have developed a fully transparent solar cell that could turn every window into an energy source. The technology also lends itself to exterior siding and pavement. Think of all those condo windows as a mini power plant.

Smart elevators
To save energy, the lights and fan won't run until there are people in the cab. Also, there won't be any buttons to push. That's because the intuitive elevator will know where you intend to go. If you live in the penthouse, the system can use GPS to tell when you're arriving and summon the car to the ground floor.

Car-charging stations
Builders are pre-wiring underground parking lots with electric-car charging stations. DUNCAN McALLISTER

DECOR

Bouquet of fresh floral prints brings spring indoors

Floral motifs pop up every spring in home-furnishing collections, but this year, there seem to be more of them than ever, and they feel particularly fresh.

New York interior designer Elaine Griffin says it began a few seasons back with a movement toward kinder, gentler silhouettes and patterns.

"Design has been trending toward a subtle but high-impact femininity," she says.

Floral chintz is back from the 1980s, but it's a looser, more relaxed version. And the cottage prints that in the past could be dowdy are more lighthearted. Also in the mix: bold, geometric flower motifs and ethnic floral patterns.

Some vintage prints reinterpret florals through a mid-century lens for a fresh take on both styles. But you'll also find more painterly designs, with a wistful watercolour look.

The new florals can go just about anywhere, says Griffin.

"For conservative spaces, co-ordinate complementary fabrics with the darkest hue in the floral," she says. "For zippier, more modern rooms, bring out the brightest hues of the pattern."

She advises making oversize floral patterns the star of the room. Pair them with textured solids or subtle stripes, and don't overdo it by adding a bunch of distracting prints.

Be mindful where you plant your flowers, too.

"Avoid florals on big and long-lived upholstered pieces like sofas," says Griffin. "They're a better bet for armchairs, ottomans and window treatments, which you can change more easily if you tire of the pattern."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A bucket chair gets the floral treatment. HOMEGOODS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A lavender bloom stars in this bedding set. HOMEGOODS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A demitasse features fresh green and white. HOMEGOODS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 hacks make most of balcony

OUTDOORS

Use of walls, raised planters eliminate 'patio envy'

Carson Arthur
For Metro

Nothing says summer like fresh evening air and a cold drink in your hand. It's the perfect way to wrap up a long day at the office or, better yet, an even longer day at the beach.

But when you're limited by space, relaxation can easily turn to frustration if you haven't got the right setup. I call it "patio envy."

Luckily, we've seen a resurgence of landscaping driven by the millennial generation that favours urban spaces. So it comes as no surprise that we're seeing trends that are scalable to any outdoor space, no matter its size.

Here are my Top 3 hacks to make the most of your balcony this year:

Think vertically!

It always surprises me how often walls are overlooked outdoors. Vertical walls in a small outdoor space or a balcony are the perfect spot to add character without cluttering the rest of the area. Make the most of yours with vertical gardens or outdoor art. Another great trick is installing a hinged wall-mounted table that gives you extra serving space when needed, or folds away to make room for more seating.

Get growing

Who says you can't garden on a patio? Get beyond terracotta pots with this year's must-have: the raised planter bed. The key is choosing a custom design that makes sense for your space. With DIY here to stay, companies have gotten really good at helping novice builders get started. MicroPro Sienna wood is a fantastic choice for a raised bed because it looks great and it's affordable. Best of all, it has set new environmental benchmarks, so it won't leach toxins into soil. You can request easy-to-follow plans on its website to get the look and make a statement on your balcony.

A raised planter box is a great way to add a garden onto your balcony while creating storage.
MICROPRO SIENNA BY BOB GUNDU

Maximize empty spaces

Clutter in a small space can easily overwhelm. Take a look at the spaces that aren't being used and make them work for you. My favourite unused space is under benches. Built-in seating on balconies is a great way to add storage for toys, tools, and other outdoor goodies. Not to mention the space under that custom planter! It's perfect for keeping extra blankets and pillows on hand.

Summer is short: take control of your outdoor space this year and get the most out of this beautiful season.

Outdoor design expert Carson Arthur.
MICROPRO SIENNA BY BOB GUNDU

WHEN NOT IN THE DIRT WITH HIS ECO-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE DESIGN COMPANY, CARSON STAYS BUSY BUILDING, PLANTING, WRITING OR DESIGNING AS A FEATURED GUEST ON CITYLINE. HIS NEW SHOW CRITICAL LISTING IS NOW AIRING ON HGTV CANADA. YOU CAN CHECK HIM OUT AT CARSONARTHUR.COM.

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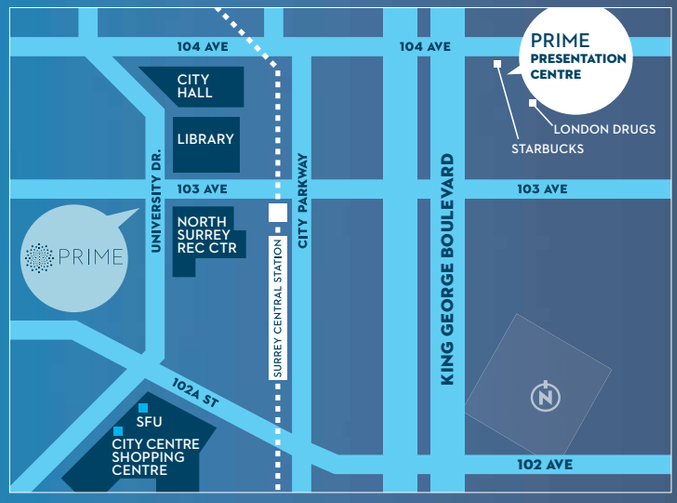

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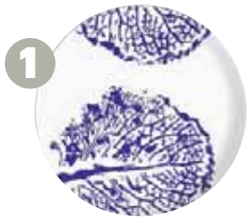

Nature sparks design trend

Represented by humans since the dawn of time, the natural world continues to inspire artists of all kinds, including interior designers. Here are some of the most striking and eccentric examples recently released by design labels. AFP

MORE VIEWS. MORE CHOICE. MORE WATERFRONT.

Enthusiasm for New Westminster has been unprecedented—it's like Gastown with waterfront. That's why RiverSky's first tower sold so quickly—and RiverSky2 promises more of the same. It's right on the waterfront esplanade and steps from SkyTrain. The shops and cafes of River Market are next door.

1 BEDROOM HOMES FROM $239,900
2 BEDROOM HOMES FROM $349,900
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This is not an offering for sale. RiverSky2 is developed by Bosa Properties (RiverSky Land) Inc. Renderings, sketches, layouts and finishes are representational only. Prices subject to change without notice. E. & O.E.

1 Vegetable prints

A reminder to eat plenty of veggies, the Végétal plates by Non Sans Raison bring a touch of contemporary design to Limoges porcelain. Artist Chiara Andreatti has used cabbage leaves and halved artichokes as stamps to create her designs. $44 US each. PHOTO BY NON SANS RAISON

2 Decorative herbarium

Like butterflies and beetles, pressed flowers are as at home in the living room as they are in a naturalist's study. &K Amsterdam has placed real botanicals in glass tiles, to be placed around the home. About $2.60 each. PHOTO BY &K AMSTERDAM

3 A natural shelf

For those with an appreciation for greenery but no green thumb, designer Thomas Eyck has come up with a vine-shaped porcelain wall shelf. No watering necessary. Price available on request. PHOTO BY THOMAS EYCK

4 Pineapple pitcher

Serve drinks in style with the porcelain pineapple pitcher that takes advantage of the tropical fruit's shape, by &K Amsterdam. About $41. PHOTO BY &K AMSTERDAM

metro SPORTS

"This is probably the best I've been" — LeBron James on the eve of the NBA Finals

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Markstrom leads Comets to Calder Cup showdown

CANUCKS PROSPECTS REPORT

GM Benning believes goalie is ready for NHL

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

In September, Jacob Markstrom somehow escaped the waiver wire untouched. He's definitely not flying under the radar this spring, and his play in the AHL's Calder Cup playoffs has only added to the narrative of the Vancouver Canucks goalie situation.

On Tuesday, Markstrom stopped all 21 shots he faced and the Utica Comets, the Canucks' AHL affiliate, earned a spot in the Calder Cup final, which begins Saturday against the Manchester Monarchs.

The towering six-foot-six goalie from Sweden not only posted a career-best goals-against average (1.88) and save percentage (.934) in the regular season with the Comets, but he's continued that form in the post-season.

In two of the three series-clinching games for the Comets, Markstrom posted shutouts, including a 35-save performance against Oklahoma City in the second round.

Now 25 years old and a restricted free agent at the end of the season, Markstrom's success in the AHL has never been able to carry over into the NHL.

Jacob Markstrom posted a 1.88 goals-against average and .934 save percentage during the regular season with the Utica Comets. GETTY IMAGES FILE

In an interview on TSN 1040 radio Wednesday, Canucks general manager Jim Benning said he believes Markstrom is ready "to play in the NHL."

"We know what he can do and we're going to sit down as a group and figure out the best direction for us to do going forward."

Ahead of Markstrom in Vancouver's depth chart of goalies are Eddie Lack, a fan-favourite who had a great bounce-back year, especially down the stretch drive, and is an unrestricted free agent after the 2015-16 season, and the 34-year-old Ryan Miller, who is working back from a major injury and is about to enter his second year of a three-year, $18-million deal.

> **We know what he can do and we're going to sit down as a group and figure out the best direction for us to do going forward.**
> Jim Benning

Utica's head coach Travis Green doesn't consider himself a goaltending guru, but what stands out to him about Markstrom's play this season has been his ability to immediately come back from a difficult outing with a strong one.

"When you have that in a goalie, it gives your team confidence," Green told Metro.

Green had a simple message for Markstrom when he did find his way to Utica: Take on a leadership role, play well and good things would happen.

"He's put himself in a real good position."

STANLEY CUP FINAL

Third-period rally gives 'Hawks edge in opener

If these playoffs have proven anything about the Chicago Blackhawks, it's that they don't go down easily.

A rough start in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup final was merely a stumbling block for the Blackhawks as they came back to beat the Tampa Bay Lightning 2-1 Wednesday night at Amalie Arena to take the series lead.

Teuvo Teravainen and Antoine Vermette scored two goals in under two minutes in the third period to stun a sellout crowd. It was a matter of time before Chicago broke through after dominating and testing Ben Bishop for the latter stages of the game.

GAME 1 In Tampa, Fla.

HAWKS	LIGHTNING
2	1

"I thought our team got better and better as the game went on," said Blackhawks forward Patrick Sharp.

"There's a belief in our room that we're never out of any game, no matter the score," he added.

Bishop finished with 19 saves and Chicago's Corey Crawford had 22. Alex Killorn scored Tampa Bay's lone goal early on a highlight-reel deflection.

Game 2 is Saturday night at Tampa Bay.

Bryan Bickell was a surprise scratch for the Blackhawks. He is day-to-day with an upper-body injury, coach Joel Quenneville said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teuvo Teravainen celebrates the game-tying goal against the Lightning on Wednesday in Tampa. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

MLS

Caps cave on Impact's late goal

The Montreal Impact didn't let a late goal effect the rest of their game.

After Vancouver tied the game from the penalty spot with 10 minutes on the clock, Montreal responded with a goal of its own and held on for a 2-1 victory over the visiting Whitecaps in MLS action on Wednesday.

Ignacio Piatti scored in the 83rd minute — just three minutes after Vancouver tied the game — to extend Montreal's home win streak to three games, its first since August 2012.

"You gain a lot of momentum in the locker-room and you have good feelings after you come back and get the win in the last 10 minutes," said Impact goalkeeper Evan Bush. "We have confidence in the guys up top to bring us back in games.

> **We had the clearer chances, the better chances. We let them off the hook. We deserved to be level.**
> Whitecaps coach Carl Robinson

"We always say that if you can get the second goal, you have a chance to win the game."

Down 1-0, Vancouver's Pedro Morales scored from the penalty spot in the 80th minute, six minutes after coming into the match as a substitute.

Jordan Harvey earned the penalty for Vancouver after midfielder Andres Romero took him down on the edge of the box.

With time winding down, it looked like the teams would share the spoils. That's when Romero spotted Piatti's run in the box, and the Argentine made no mistake with a strike into the corner of the net for his team-leading third goal of the season.

The Whitecaps (7-6-2) have now lost three of their past four MLS games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MetroTalks Karina LeBlanc

KEVIN TUONG FOR METRO

Canada 'keeper sits down to talk Women's World Cup

Leah Holoiday
Metro | Edmonton

In one month, Karina LeBlanc will hang up her cleats and retire from a 17-year career with the Canadian women's national team.

While the countdown to the close of her career is on — a career that includes an Olympic bronze medal, three Pan American Games and four FIFA Women's World Cup appearances — the Maple Ridge, B.C., product said she has one thing on her mind.

That's Saturday.

The 35-year-old goalkeeper and her teammates begin their 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup campaign on Saturday against China at Commonwealth Stadium.

After nearly two decades playing the sport, LeBlanc says not much can phase her. However, preparing for a World Cup on home turf can bring back rookie butterflies.

"I don't think anything ever prepares you for that," LeBlanc said at the Metro Edmonton office on Wednesday. "It's not only the pride and proudness of playing in front of your friends, family and countrymen, but it's the emotions that come with that."

LeBlanc is one of 23 players playing for Canada, ranging in age from 17-year-old newcomer Jessie Fleming, to veterans Rhian Wilkinson, 33 and Melissa Trancredi, 33.

> **It is imperative that people don't show up quiet. They show up loud. They show up in red.**
> Karina LeBlanc

Despite the age gaps, LeBlanc says the team has fully jelled and ready to compete.

"It doesn't matter your age, it doesn't matter your experience, it's the fact that we have this tight family and this family is going to connect in front of the bigger family, which is the country."

The Canadian women's team has come a long way since its struggles at the 2011 World Cup LeBlanc said.

"We gave what we thought was our best and we came dead last," LeBlanc said.

Despite that disappointment, the team was able to regroup and pull together to secure the bronze medal at the 2012 London Olympics.

"It's incredible all of the different emotions (you experience) in a short time, but I think one of the great lessons is that anything is possible if you believe in it," she said.

With nothing on her mind right now except the World Cup (nope, there's no plan for after retirement quite yet), LeBlanc said she'll be looking to the Canadian crowd to push the team into its highest gear.

"It is imperative that people don't show up quiet. They show up loud," LeBlanc said.

"They show up in red.

"There will be moments in this World Cup, where Canadians help us win."

KARINA'S PICKS

Peanut butter or Nutella? Peanut butter

Favourite food? Mango

Favourite drink? Coconut water

Second favourite sport? Basketball

Person you most admire? My parents

Athlete you most admire? Michael Jordan

Favourite match ever? The final of the 2015 Women's World Cup

Favourite hair colour? Red

Hair spray, mousse or cream? Hair spray

Messi or Ronaldo? (Manuel) Neuer, the goalkeeper from Germany

Breakout star of the World Cup? The Canadian women's national team

City you're most excited to play in? Vancouver

World Cup final matchup? Canada versus the next best team

CONTROVERSY

From concerns over artificial turf to FIFA's bribery scandal, controversy has not been in short supply ahead of the Women's World Cup.

But Karina LeBlanc says her mind is only on the field of play.

"We've worked since the last World Cup every single day for this one and I don't think anything is going to take away from that for us," she said.

Much has been made of the artificial turf being used instead of regular grass.

LeBlanc said the team was always prepared.

"I can't speak for other countries," she said. "Every team is going to bring their best and I think every team has dealt with the issues of turf or grass. I know for us, our focus has been on the World Cup."

LeBlanc says she hasn't paid much attention to the high-level bribery scandal amongst FIFA executives.

"I'm not even focused on that, to be honest. I don't think any of the athletes playing in this tournament are focused on that."

RECIPE Shrimp and Macaroni Salad

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 8 minutes

Ingredients
- 8 oz macaroni or small shell pasta
- 12 oz peeled and deveined raw shrimp
- ⅓ cup light mayonnaise
- ⅓ cup low-fat sour cream
- ¼ cup sweet tomato chili sauce or ketchup
- ½ cup minced green bell pepper
- ½ cup minced red bell pepper
- ½ cup minced red onion
- ⅓ cup chopped fresh dill or parsley
- pinch freshly ground black pepper

Directions

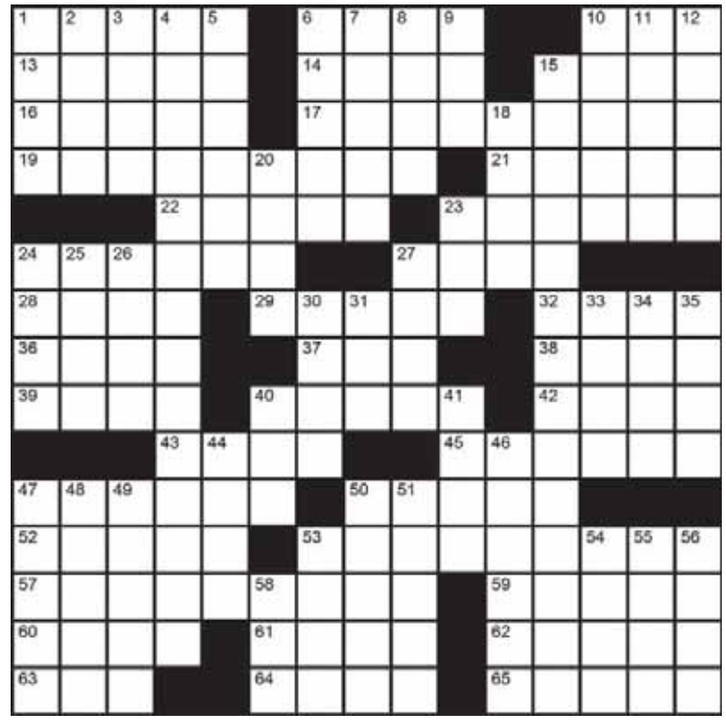
1. Cook the macaroni in a pot of boiling water for eight to 10 minutes, or until tender but firm.
2. Drain, rinse under cold running water and drain thoroughly.
3. If using large or jumbo shrimp, cut into halves. Spray a non-stick skillet with cooking oil and place over medium-high heat. Cook until pink, about two minutes.
4. Combine the mayonnaise, sour cream and chili sauce in a small bowl and mix well.
5. Combine the green and red pepper, onion, dill, pepper, pasta, shrimp and dressing in a serving bowl. Toss to coat well. Chill before serving.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 394
- Protein 22 g
- Fat 9 g
- Cholesterol 99 mg
- Sodium 283 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Big divide
6. Web address starter
10. 'S' in SPCA [abbr.]
13. Espresso style
14. Cincinnati's home
15. Early helicopter
16. Molecular bits
17. Chapped skin product: 2 wds.
19. Great Big Sea song about a real life Beothuk woman of Newfoundland: "__ Dream"
21. __ & Hawk (Juno-winning band from Winnipeg)
22. Office amounts
23. Ultimate
24. Surrounded by, to The Bard
27. Denpasar is its capital
28. Thought
29. Isolated
32. Voluminous book
36. Fibber
37. __ _ break (Away from one's desk)
38. Majestic
39. Gambler's input
40. Peggys __ Lighthouse (Iconic red-and-white attraction at Peggys Cove)
42. Shindig
43. "__ she blows!"
45. South American wild cat
47. Vintage girdle
50. Pasture place
52. .pdf files program, __ Acrobat
53. Cadbury treat a Viking would love
57. __ __ of Canada = RBC
59. Celine Dion's asset
60. Peanuts character
61. Ballet movement
62. Plaudit
63. Iron's partner
64. Post
65. Slangly-spelled agendas

DOWN
1. Clothed
2. Really don't like
3. Mr. Egoyan
4. Body of water where Peggys Cove is situated: 3 wds.
5. Muddles
6. Boring
7. 1894 Jules Massenet opera
8. Dye
9. Pea's packaging
10. Warfare attack
11. Verbal tests
12. Space object
15. Nova Scotia: Some of the Eastern Shore is composed of this rugged stuff: 2 wds.
18. 'Roof' a room
20. Info
23. Business excess
24. Ms. Kunis
25. Norse deity
26. Orderly
27. __ muffins
30. Broke
31. Singer Ms. DiFranco
33. Iridescent gem
34. Fermented soybean paste
35. Genuine
40. Ms. Benatar
41. Three-__ sloth
44. Scoundrel
46. Fourth wife of Henry VIII, Anne of __ (b.1515 - d.1557)
47. Movie producer Mr. Ponti
48. Stench
49. Rolls-__ (Posh car)
50. "__ __ Acapulco" (1963) starring Elvis Presley
51. Tattooed
53. Corduroy line
54. Nastiness
55. Mil. school
56. Soaks flax
58. Country singer married to actress Kimberly Williams ...his initials-sharers

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
With Mars, your ruler, on such excellent form, how can you possibly fail? This is one of those occasions when you must take risks and when you must push the limits. For you there are no limits, so light up the sky.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will surprise a few people with your tough guy act today. Usually you are placid in the extreme and rarely raise your voice but over the next 24 hours you will go right the other way. Scream and shout!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If you push yourself hard now you will accomplish more in the next 24 hours than most people manage in 24 days. You won't lack for energy or passion — and if you use your brains you won't lack for anything.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you don't get what you want one way, you will get it another — you are in one of your imperious moods, the kind where you can easily intimidate people. No one says "no" to a Cancer — at least not today.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't worry about making mistakes, worry only that you might miss out on a glorious opportunity because you were too timid. If you take a chance it will pay off, even if the odds are stacked against you.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Someone in a position of authority will challenge you to do more and do better today. You will rise to the challenge and show them and the world at large what you can do. Your ambition knows no bounds.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You are in the mood to shock. You want to see the look of amazement on other people's faces when you say or do things they don't approve of. Don't go too far though or even your friends may start to avoid you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
A falling out of some kind is likely today and it is unlikely to be very pretty. You have had your fill of being pushed around and now certain people need to learn that you can bite as well as bark.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
If you go it alone today you will do okay, but if you work with others you will accomplish ten times as much. Mars urges you to put petty differences aside and join with those who share your ideals.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you find yourself under pressure today you will most likely have brought it on yourself. You have taken on too many duties recently and now you are starting to pay the price. Cut back on your workload.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will find yourself drawn to a person who is strong and powerful and the planets indicate you are a good fit creatively. Get together to work on a project that you both find inspiring.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Something has stung you into action and you have every intention of making your mark. Your problem most of the time is that you are too sensitive but that won't be such an issue today.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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*Conditions apply. Free $200.00 advance offer valid for the customer's first payday advance or first advance after 12 months. Offer only applies to the loan fees on a $200.00 loan; if a loan exceeds $200.00, Money Mart's applicable fees for the portion of the loan in excess of $200.00 will apply. Offer available only at participating Money Mart locations and online. Offer not valid in Manitoba. Loan amounts are subject to minimum net pay and other qualification requirements. Online loans originated only to residents of Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia. Offer is non-transferrable. Offer valid for a limited time only and may be discontinued by Money Mart at any time. Check with a CSR upon applying for your loan. Not valid with any other offers. Limit one offer/certificate per customer during the promotional period. No cash value. No substitutions. To receive this offer, customers must repay their advance in cash on or before their advance due date, otherwise interest will accrue from the date the loan was originated. To qualify for a payday loan, minimum net pay requirements will apply and may vary by province. Other conditions may also apply. Ask a Money Mart Customer Service Representative for details. [Alberta residents: The APR on a $300.00 loan for 14 days is 599.64% on a rate of $23.00 per $100.00 borrowed.] [British Columbia residents: The APR on a $300.00 loan originated at a Money Mart branch for 14 days in BC is 521.17% at Money Mart's cash repayment rate of $19.99 per $100.00 borrowed, and 599.64% at the regular rate of $23.00 per $100.00 borrowed. The APR on a $300 loan originated online for 14 days is 521.17% at the rate of $19.99 per $100 borrowed for loans funded to the Money Mart ATM card, and 599.64% at a rate of $23 per $100 borrowed for loans funded in store or to your chequing account. Money Mart branch BC Payday Licence #49839. Online BC Payday Licence #62477.] [New Brunswick residents: The APR on a $300.00 loan for 14 days is 547.50% on a rate of $21.00 per $100.00 borrowed.] [Saskatchewan residents: The APR on a $300.00 loan for 14 days is 599.64% on a rate of $23.00 per $100.00 borrowed.] [Ontario residents: The cost of borrowing at Money Mart is $21.00 per $100.00 per each $100.00 advanced. On a $300.00 loan for 14 days, the cost of borrowing is $63.00, with a total payback amount of $363.00. The maximum allowable cost of borrowing under payday loan agreements is $21.00 per each $100.00 advanced.] MONEY MART® is a registered service mark of National Money Mart Company. © 2015 National Money Mart Company. All rights reserved.

In Nova Scotia the total cost of borrowing $100.00 for 14 days is $22.00. Payday Loans are High Cost Loans.